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those whose duties confine them more closely to the University, have been quite fully outlined by Dr. Engler and his associates in recent numbers of *Gartenflora*. The concluding article, in the issue for January 15, contains a small map illustrating the general features of the planting and the location of the buildings.

Botanical Notes. — A further contribution to the systematic value of seed anatomy is published by Pritzel, in Heft 3 of *Engler's Botanische Jahrbücher* for 1897, in which the endosperm is discussed in detail for representatives of a considerable number of genera, especially of the Parietales.

The January number of *Forstlich-Naturwissenschaftliche Zeitschrift* contains a description, by Tubeuf, of an aberrant form of our white pine, which is descriptively called *Pinus strobus*, forma *monophylla*.

In the *Berichte der bayerischen botanischen Gesellschaft*, Bd. v, 1897, Andreas Allescher describes a considerable number of new "fungi imperfecti," which, although the types are of Bavarian collection, in many cases occur on hosts that grow also in the United States, so that students of this class of form species need to make note of them.

The double root cap of Tropæolum, described by Flahault in 1878, forms the subject of a communication to the French Academy by M. Brunotte, published in the *Comptes Rendus* of January 17. It is held that the supernumerary sheath originates from the proliferation of the cells of the suspensor.

The study of the hibernacula of plants has received an important extension in an examination of the reproductive organs of a number of species of Pteridophytes and Phanerogams, the results of which are published by Mr. Chamberlain in the *Botanical Gazette* for February, under the title "Winter Characters of Certain Sporangia."

A careful study of the ecological phases of a Scandinavian sand flora is contributed by Erikson to the botanical section of volume xxii of the *Transactions of the Royal Swedish Academy*.

The *Annals of Scottish Natural History* for January contains an article on the flora of Tiree, by Macvicar, and one on the topographical botany of Scotland, by Professor Trail, as an addition to the well-known *Topographical Botany* of the late H. C. Watson.

Professor Spegazzini contributes to the fifth volume of the *Anales del Museo Nacional de Buenos Aires*, for 1896–97, just received, a paper on Fuegian plants collected in 1882, in which eighteen species and one variety — all Phanerogams — are described as new. Five of the species are figured.

Students of South American botany will be interested in the Xyrideæ and Burmanniaceæ (by Malme) and Oxalidaceæ (by Frederikson) of Regnell's first expedition, contained in volume xxii of the *Transactions of the Royal Swedish Academy* of Stockholm.

The occurrence of fossil remains of Brasenia in Russia and Denmark forms the subject of a paper by Gunnar Andersson in the botanical section of the appendix to volume xxii of the *Transactions of the Royal Swedish Academy* of Stockholm, issued in 1897. Two plates illustrate the structure of recent and fossil specimens, the former from Japan and the United States.

Dr. Ernst Huth, whose death in August last cut short a promising botanical career, had prepared a paper on the Ranunculaceæ of Japan, with especial reference to the species collected by Father Faurie between 1885 and 1896, which is published in the *Bulletin of the Boissier Herbarium* for December, 1897.

The Bavarian Botanical Society, which has its home in Munich, is publishing in its *Berichte* a preliminary flora of Bavaria, in which full ordinal descriptions, keys to genera, full generic descriptions, keys to species in the larger genera, and detailed specific descriptions are given. In many cases the geographical range of the several species of a genus is indicated on reduced maps of the country, which, for the more ready contrast of related species, are printed in pairs in the text. Thus far, the flora reaches Dentaria, in the Cruciferæ.

A somewhat similarly treated flora of the neighborhood of Nuremberg and Erlangen, by A. F. Schwarz, which is being issued in parts by the Natural History Society of Nuremberg, reaches the Rutaceæ, in the tenth volume of the *Abhandlungen* of the Society.

Acalypha virginica, a common North American plant which has become established in Italy, forms the subject of a note by Traverso in *Malpighia* for 1897. It appears that in the vicinity of Pavia, in addition to this species, *Azolla caroliniana*, *Elodea canadensis*, *Commelina virginica*, *Oxybaphus nyctagineus*, and *Solidago serotina*, all pertaining to our flora, have rather recently become established.

Euphrasia canadensis, a supposed new species from the vicinity of Quebec, is described and figured by Frederick Townsend in the *Journal of Botany* for January.

Frederick N. Williams publishes in the January number of the *Journal of Botany* a short article on primary characters in Cerastium, and characterizes in accordance with his views Dichodon, Strephodon, and Orthodon as subgenera.

Mr. C. A. Purpus, who for some time has been active in introducing the choicer species of our Western and Pacific coast vegetation into European gardens, contributes to the *Mitteilungen der Deutschen Dendrologischen Gesellschaft* for 1897 an account of his travels in the southern Sierras of California and the Argus and Madurango ranges.

Eriogonum, one of the more puzzling genera of Apetalæ, is enriched by the addition of twenty-two new species, in a paper by Dr. Small, published in the *Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club* for January. In the same article, *Oxytheca parishii* Parry is made the type of a new genus, Acanthoscyphus.

The tree opuntias of the United States form the subject of an interesting short article in the February number of the *Botanical Gazette*, by Professor Toumey, whose opportunities for the study and cultivation of cacti, in Arizona, are unrivaled.

A paper on some biographical difficulties in botany, — some of which apparently might be escaped by carrying the application of the principle of priority to Tournefort's work, instead of stopping with the species Plantarum of Linnæus — read before the Botanical Society of America in Toronto last summer, by Prof. E. L. Greene, has been reprinted from volume iv of the *Catholic University Bulletin*, of Washington.

M. Cardot, in the *Bulletin de la Société d'Histoire Naturelle d'Autun* for 1897, publishes a Répertoire Sphagnologique, an alphabetical catalogue of all known species and varieties of Sphagnum, with indication of synonymy, bibliography, and geographical distribution. The pamphlet, which is separately paged, contains 200 pages, octavo.

The Botanical laboratory of the University of Siena has begun the publication of a new journal,[1] the first fascicle of which, for January, 1898, contains a report on the botanical garden and museum for the scholastic year 1896–97, and a number of scientific papers, chiefly on fungi, — a group with which Italian botanists are very largely occupied.

PALEONTOLOGY.

Pleistocene Flora. — For a number of years the Pleistocene flora of Canada has formed the subject of special investigation, chiefly by Sir Wm. Dawson and Professor Penhallow, of Montreal, and Prof.

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[1] *Bull. lab. bot. R. Univ. Siena.* Redatto del Dott. Fl. Tassi.